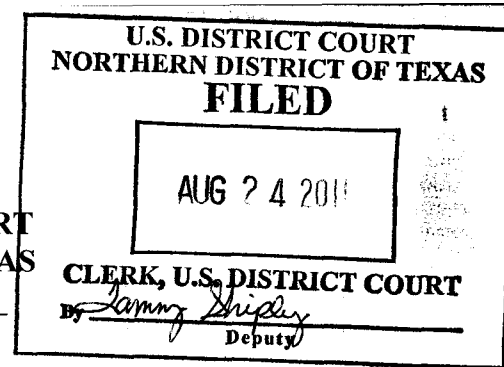


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS



AMENDED SPECIAL ORDER NO. 3-250

With the consent of the district judges of this Court, this order governs the direct assignment of cases in the Dallas and Fort Worth divisions.

1. An incoming transfer of probation jurisdiction case will be directly assigned to the judge in the division who previously presided over a criminal case involving the defendant, if any, and, if there is no such judge in the division, then to the judge who signed the transfer order.
2. An incoming case involving a transfer for plea and sentence under Fed.R.Crim.P. 20 will be directly assigned to the judge assigned to any prior criminal case involving the same defendant.
3. A petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 will be directly assigned to the judge in the division who previously presided over a criminal case involving the defendant, if any.
4. A successive petition for writ of habeas corpus challenging a sentence of death or an action seeking to stay execution related to a prior petition for writ of habeas corpus challenging a sentence of death will be directly assigned to the judge in the division who previously presided over a case that challenged the same sentence of death, if any.
5. A motion filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 will be directly assigned to the sentencing judge.
6. A pre-judgment writ of garnishment will be directly assigned to the judge in the division assigned to the case to which the pre-judgment writ of garnishment relates, if any.

7. If a case is severed, any new case will be directly assigned to the judge who severed the case (absent a contrary direction in the order severing).
8. In the Dallas division, when a new case is directly assigned or transferred to a judge because the judge was assigned to a prior case, and a magistrate judge was also assigned to the prior case, the new case will also be directly assigned to the magistrate judge assigned to the prior case.
9. If this order provides for a case to be directly assigned to a judge or magistrate judge who is no longer accepting new cases, or if the case is of a type that the judge or magistrate judge is no longer accepting, the case will be randomly assigned.
10. If the United States Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation transfers a case to this court, or a party files a notice of related case under LR 3.3(a) or LR 81.1(a)(3) identifying a case as related to a Multidistrict Litigation (MDL) case pending in this court, the case will be directly assigned to the judge assigned to the MDL case. A magistrate judge will not be assigned to an MDL case unless the judge assigned to the MDL case otherwise directs. The chief judge, after consulting the judge assigned the MDL case and other affected judges, will determine whether to adjust the number of cases assigned to the judge assigned to the MDL case from the regular civil deck based on the number of transferred or "tag along" cases and will instruct the clerk accordingly.
11. Absent a written order to directly assign the case, any other case will be randomly assigned.

SO ORDERED.

August 24, 2011.


SIDNEY A. FITZWATER
CHIEF JUDGE